



THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

MEMORANDUM

June 15, 2012

TO: Members, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

FROM: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations Staff

RE: Hearing on “The Federal Green Jobs Agenda”

On Tuesday, June 19, 2012, at 10:15 a.m. in 2322 Rayburn House Office Building, the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations will hold a hearing entitled “The Federal Green Jobs Agenda.” This hearing serves to examine the Federal investment in green energy programs and the employment and economic returns generated by this investment.

I. WITNESSES

Molly F. Sherlock, Ph.D.
Specialist in Public Finance
Government and Finance Division
Congressional Research Service

Kenneth P. Green, D.Env.
Resident Scholar
American Enterprise Institute

David W. Kreutzer, Ph.D.
Research Fellow in Energy Economics and Climate Change
The Heritage Foundation

W. David Montgomery, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President
NERA Economic Consulting

Michael Breen
Vice President
Truman National Security Project

Additional witnesses may be called at the discretion of the Majority.

II. BACKGROUND

The United States Federal investment in energy research and development can be traced back to the early 1960's and grew dramatically in response to the Arab Oil Embargo which began in October of 1973.¹ The U.S. government has been involved in various renewable and green energy programs since the mid-1970's.² Over the years, these programs have ranged considerably in size and scope. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 increased the federal investment in green energy significantly.

III. ISSUES

The following issues may be examined at the hearing:

- The history and current state of green energy subsidies in the United States;
- The history of green energy programs in foreign countries;
- The net impacts of green energy programs on the economy and employment; and
- The costs and benefits of tax-related incentives for green energy projects.

IV. STAFF CONTACTS

If you have any questions regarding this hearing, please contact Sam Spector with the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations staff at (202) 225-2927.

¹ http://www.pnl.gov/main/publications/external/technical_reports/PNNL-17952.pdf

² *Id.*